

INTELLUFAA 21

FORM NO. 51-AAA
FEB 1952**CONFIDENTIAL**
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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 31 Mar. 1952

SUBJECT Desecration of the Church
at Bulgarin

NO. OF PAGES 1

DATE OF
INFO.NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)PLACE
ACQUIREDSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

CIRCULATE

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1. The village church at Bulgarin (N4158 E2557), near Kharmanlii, has been closed since the death of the incumbent in 1950. No new priest has been appointed because the villagers are afraid to approach the ecclesiastical authorities for fear of being branded as reactionaries by the local Communists. Similarly, villagers are reluctant to summon a priest from a neighboring village, even in cases of extreme emergency.

2. In mid-1951 the following inscription appeared on the wall of the church: "The priest smells like a goat and we can do without him." The villagers attributed the inscription to the local Communists and did not venture to remove it. The authorities took no action.

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No Change in Class.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Class. Changed To:	TS S C
Auth.:	HR 70-2-78
Date:	

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